

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
OFFICE OF THE CLERK
DISTRICT OF MARYLAND

Felicia C. Cannon, Clerk

Lisa Rosenthal, Chief Deputy

Reply to Southern Division Address

December 21, 2007

Attached to this memorandum is a copy of a Resolution recently adopted by the bench of this Court concerning categories of bar membership. Members of the bar are urged to read the Resolution carefully, especially the provision dealing with inactive status. An attorney on inactive status is not entitled to represent clients in proceedings before this Court, and should be careful not to represent to the public that the person is a member of the bar of this Court, unless it is made clear that the attorney's status is that of an inactive member not entitled to appear before this Court. See, Rule 7.1 of the Maryland Rules of Professional Conduct.

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, by the bench of the United States District Court for the District of Maryland, that the Clerk of this Court, in the maintenance of records with respect to the admissions status of attorneys, shall utilize the following terminology:

(1) Active – refers to a member in good standing of the bar of this Court who is an active member in good standing of the bar of Maryland or the state (or the District of Columbia) in which the attorney maintains his or her principal law office.

(2) Inactive – refers to an attorney who has previously been admitted to the bar of this Court, but who (a) has requested to be placed on inactive status for other than disciplinary reasons, (b) has not renewed his or her membership and is eligible for renewal, or (c) no longer meets the continuing eligibility requirements for admission to the bar of this Court.

(3) Suspended – refers to an attorney previously admitted to the bar of this Court, but whose membership has been stricken because of disciplinary action that resulted in suspension.

(4) Disbarred– refers to an attorney previously admitted to the bar of this Court, but whose membership has been stricken because of disciplinary action that resulted in disbarment.

(5) Pro Hac Vice– refers to an attorney who is not a member of the bar of this Court, but who has been admitted in one or more cases on a pro hac vice basis.

(6) Deceased– refers to an attorney who has previously been admitted to the bar of this Court but who is now deceased.

(7) Criminal Case- refers to an attorney who is not a member of the bar of this Court, but who is representing a defendant in a criminal case in accordance with the provisions of Local Rule 201.1.

(8) Judge- refers to a member of the bar of this Court who is an active or retired federal

judge.

(9) Multi-District Litigation- refers to an attorney who is not a member of the bar of this Court, but who is appearing on behalf of a party in a multi-district case pending before this Court.

(10) Pending Renewal- refers to a member in good standing of the bar of this Court whose term of membership has expired but whose renewal application is pending.

(11) Government- refers to an attorney who is not a member of the bar of this Court but who is representing the United States or an agency thereof as authorized by law.

In the event that an attorney whose membership status has been changed to inactive desires to resume active bar membership status, that attorney shall be required to submit an application for original membership and pay the normal application fee. However, on a one time basis only, an attorney who has failed to complete a renewal application in a timely manner will be permitted to submit a belated renewal application provided that it is accompanied by the current renewal fee and by a letter requesting reinstatement that contains (1) an explanation for the failure to submit a timely renewal application, (2) an assurance that the applicant is familiar with this Court's Local Rules and will in the future comply in a timely manner with the renewal requirements, and (3) an acknowledgment that the professional courtesy of submitting an untimely renewal application will only be extended this one time and will not be repeated. Upon approval of the belated renewal application, the attorney shall be converted from inactive status to active status, with a term of membership running from the date of expiration of the last period of bar membership had the attorney renewed his or her membership in a timely manner, unless otherwise directed by the Court.

